

THE BULLETIN

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

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Study Shows Medical School Leaders Have Shorter Lives

By Janet Wong

BING A MEDICAL SCHOOL CLASS president could literally take years off your life, a recent study by U of T researchers revealed.

"Being elected medical school class president is a distinctive event that signifies ambition, popularity and success," reported lead author Donald Redelmeier, a professor of medicine at U of T and director of clinical epidemiology at Sunnybrook and Women's College Health Sciences Centre, in the December issue of *Social Science and Medicine*.

But while a medical school presidency may be associated with success, it could also be associated with harmful status-seeking behaviour such as tendencies that impair family relationships and limit exercise time, among others, said Redelmeier and co-author Jeffrey Kwong, a former U of T medical class president who is now a resident in community medicine.

Comparing the long-term survival

rates of 1,521 doctors (including all class presidents) who graduated from U of T over the past 100 years, the researchers found overall life expectancy was 2.4 years less for presidents than their classmates — a decrease not easily explained by age, sex, race, academic performance, subsequent specialization or random chance. The average lifespan after graduation of all surveyed was 50 years.

But two U of T medical school class presidents are taking these dire predictions of an early demise with a grain of salt.

"I thought it was funny," said Andrew Pinto, one of two second-year class presidents. "And I knew immediately that a lot of friends and classmates would be expressing their sympathy in a joking way. I wasn't at all worried. But it is an interesting and strong finding over so many different factors — that regardless of gender or chance they found this."

Nicole Hale, one of two third-

-See MED SCHOOL Page 4-

PhD Student Discovers Key Genetic SARS Link

By Karen Kelly

A U OF T STUDENT HAD NO IDEA his class project would end up unravelling the history of SARS. But when he was assigned an open-ended study, John Stavrinides jumped at the chance to tackle public enemy number one.

"I chose the SARS genome because it was obviously very important from a medical perspective," said Stavrinides, a PhD candidate in comparative genomics.

Under the supervision of Professor David Guttmann of botany, Stavrinides turned a month-long project into four

months. It would involve 10-hour days in front of the computer, using computational tools to trace the coronavirus' checkered past.

The detective work paid off. As Stavrinides and Guttmann unravelled the history of the genome, they discovered that SARS was formed by a combination of mammalian and avian viruses. This recombination event created an entirely new coronavirus, unrecognizable to human immune systems.

Similar genetic exchange events are believed responsible for some of the most devastating viral epidemics and pandemics such as

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INSIDE

FROM CRADLE TO GRAVE

HEATHER MACLEAN EXAMINES THE IMPACT of automobiles on the environment, from plant to scrapyard. Profile. Page 9

HOLIDAY HANGOVER



PASCAL PAQUETTE

Frosty the Snowman made an appearance in the quad of the Sir Daniel Wilson residence when classes resumed last week — but he also brought frigid weather as temperatures dipped to the -30s with the wind chill factor. But chin up, Environment Canada is calling for a return to normal temperatures this week with temperatures reaching -3 C.

Sitcom SO Transforms Modern English

DOES TELEVISION AFFECT THE WAY we speak? A new study conducted by University of Toronto researchers suggests that it does. The study reveals that the language of the popular television sitcom Friends is in the vanguard of new changes in American English.

"This research focuses on the words the Friends characters use to emphasize or intensify, such as *very*, *really* and *so* (as in 'I'm so sorry')," said Professor Sali Tagliamonte of linguistics, one of the co-authors of the study, *So Cool; So Weird; So Innovative: The Use of Intensifiers in the Television Series Friends*. According to sociolinguistic research, these intensifiers change constantly in language, providing an ideal way to tap into current trends in American English.

The study, presented at the American Dialect Society's annual meeting in Boston, Mass., this past weekend, was conducted by Tagliamonte and undergraduate student Chris Roberts. Their research found that the television characters' use of language generally mirrors the English language in the real world. However, the actors' use of particular words was far more innovative, which represents a more advanced state of the language.

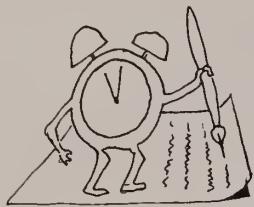
At the beginning of the 20th century, *very* was the most common intensifier in American English, then *really* (as in "I'm really happy") took its place, said Tagliamonte. But in Friends, the word *so* (as in "He's so weird") is taking the lead. "The Friends characters use it more often than any other intensifier," she added.

"Moreover, the female characters use *so* far more often than the male characters. These are indications that Friends may be paving the way towards a new way of speaking and women are leading that change."

The study also revealed that the use of *so* in the sitcom peaked during the years when the show hit the highest ratings and receded when the show's popularity waned. This suggests that the use of new forms of language, like the intensifier *so*, makes TV dialogue more trendy to its viewers. "Overall, the findings of this study confirm that the use of intensifiers is undergoing rapid change in American dialects," Tagliamonte said. "Further, it demonstrates that television-based language provides a viable reflection of those changes."



IN BRIEF



GOVERNING COUNCIL APPROVES UTS RESTRUCTURING

GOVERNING COUNCIL HAS GIVEN APPROVAL TO AN INTERIM AGREEMENT THAT will create a separate legal entity for University of Toronto Schools and govern its relationship with the university. Under the agreement, effective Jan. 1, UTS will continue to use the building on Bloor Street rent-free as well as receive some university financial support until April 2006. Professor Vivek Goel, vice-provost (faculty), told council members Dec. 15 that the interim period will allow the new UTS board to develop plans for financial self-sufficiency prior to signing any longer-term agreement with the university. Arrangements have also been made with the unions representing UTS teachers and administrative staff to preserve their seniority, wages and benefits through the interim period. UTS was created in 1910 as a publicly funded practice school for the education of teachers at U of T. Since the provincial government withdrew direct public support in 1994, it has relied largely on student enrolment fees as well as support through OISE/UT. In other UTS news, Professor Malcolm Levin of the Institute of Child Study has taken over as interim principal, replacing outgoing principal Robin Brooke-Smith, effective Jan. 1.

U OF T RESEARCHERS WIN POLANYI PRIZES

PROFESSORS MARK STABILE OF ECONOMICS AND JOSEPH THYWISSEN OF physics are among the five university researchers to win John Charles Polanyi Prizes, awarded each year to scholars and researchers planning to continue post-doctoral studies at an Ontario university. Stabile, who specializes in health economics and the relationships between public finance and the health care system, was selected for his research on the effects of differences in health insurance coverage and in tax systems on health care systems. Thywissen's work focuses on ultra-cold physics. His research employs state-of-the-art lasers and microscopic magnetic traps to capture and cool neutral atoms in quantum gases. Established in 1986 by the Ontario government in honour of University Professor John Polanyi of chemistry, the \$15,000 prizes are given in the Nobel Prize categories of chemistry, literature, physics, physiology or medicine and economic science.

CHEE TO FOCUS FULL TIME ON UTAM

FELIX CHEE, VICE-PRESIDENT (BUSINESS AFFAIRS) AND PRESIDENT AND CEO pro tem of the University of Toronto Asset Management Corporation (UTAM), has stepped down from the vice-presidential post to devote his time fully to UTAM. Catherine Riggall, assistant vice-president (facilities and services), takes over as acting vice-president (business affairs). "I am most grateful to Felix for the exceptional service he has given to U of T," said President Robert Birgeneau. "He has brought an unprecedented high level of professional leadership to our financial management, to our capital development and other business affairs. The university will continue to be very well served by his stewardship of our asset management through UTAM."

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AWARDS & HONOURS

FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

PROFESSOR LEVENTE DIOSADY OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERING and applied chemistry received the Engineering Medal for Research & Development Nov. 14 at the annual Ontario Professional Engineers awards gala for his commitment to food engineering research including his work to support the elimination of nutritional deficiencies in Third World countries. For the past 10 years Diosady has led the development of techniques for fortifying salt with iron and iodine to prevent micronutrient deficiency diseases, which adversely affect over two billion people.

FACULTY OF ARTS & SCIENCE

UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR RICHARD BOND OF ASTROPHYSICS, one of the world's leading cosmologists, received the Natural Sciences & Engineering Research Council of Canada's Award of Excellence as one of three finalists for the 2003 Gerhard Herzberg Canada Gold Medal for science and engineering. Cited as responsible for major new insights into the nature of dark matter and black holes, Bond has greatly expanded our knowledge of the structure and evolution of the early universe. He received the award Nov. 25 in Ottawa along with major NSERC prize winners announced earlier in the year.

PROFESSOR PEKKA SINERVO, DEAN OF THE FACULTY OF ARTS & SCIENCE, was elected a fellow of the American Physical Society at its November meeting. Sinervo was cited for his important contributions to the discovery of the top quark and the first measurements of its properties and for his studies of the bottom-hadron systems in proton-antiproton collisions. Election to fellowship is limited to no more than one-half of one per cent of the membership and recognizes outstanding contributions to physics.

ROTMAN SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

PROFESSORS JIN-CHUAN DUAN AND MENGZE SHI ARE co-winners of the Roger Martin and Nancy Lang Award for Excellence in Research while Professor William Strange is the winner of the award for excellence in teaching. The Roger Martin and Nancy Lang Awards for Excellence in Research and Teaching were established in 1999 by a generous donation to the Rotman School of Management by Martin and his wife to recognize and encourage the research and teaching activities of faculty members at the school.

PROFESSOR NITIM MEHTA IS THE WINNER OF THE 2004 Petro-Canada Young Innovator Award, established in 1999 by a donation to the Rotman School of Management from Petro-Canada to provide support for the research activities of management faculty at the beginning of their careers. Mehta is known for his marketing research in the areas of choice models, econometric analysis of marketing data, price promotions and game-theoretic models of marketing strategy.

FACULTY OF MEDICINE

DIANA ALLI, CO-ORDINATOR OF THE OFFICE OF STUDENT affairs, and Professor Miriam Rossi of pediatrics received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Toronto District School Board at the partnership appreciation celebration Nov. 17. Alli received her certificate for her contribution to the Saturday morning mentoring program and Rossi for her contribution to the summer mentorship program.

DR. ROSS MACKENZIE, A LECTURER IN THE DEPARTMENT of Medicine, was presented with the Distinguished Physician Award at the recent annual meeting of the American Academy of Insurance Medicine in Scottsdale, Ariz. The award is given every few years to a physician who has made a major contribution to the advancement of the science of insurance medicine and has brought "enlightenment and honour" to the profession. MacKenzie was president of the academy in 2001 and is associate editor of its major publication — the *Journal of Insurance Medicine*.

JOAN SAARY, A CLINICIAN SCIENTIST TRAINEE IN MEDICINE and the Institute of Medical Science, is the winner of the Royal Society of Canada's 2003 Alice Wilson Award. The prize, given yearly to a woman of outstanding academic qualifications who is entering a career in scholarship or research at the post-doctoral level, was presented at the society's awards banquet Nov. 24 in Ottawa, following the induction of newly elected fellows. In her research Saary plans to fill the gap between outcome measurement, stakeholder perspectives and delivery of quality health care for occupational diseases.

PROFESSOR EMERITUS HARALD SONNENBERG OF PHYSIOLOGY, whose work in the area of sodium handling by the kidney earned him international renown, was the recipient of the 2003 Kidney Foundation of Canada Medal for Research Excellence, honouring a Canadian researcher whose work is recognized by his or her peers to have significantly advanced the treatment of kidney disease and related conditions. Sonnenberg received the award in Toronto in November.

PROFESSOR VLADIMIR VUKSAN OF MEDICINE WAS PRESENTED with the Award of Excellence in Health Care Research from the Toronto Institute of Pharmaceutical Technology Nov. 28. Vukan received the award for his outstanding contribution to nutritional medicine and diabetes research.

U OF T AT SCARBOROUGH

RITA PEARSALL, ASSOCIATE REGISTRAR (RECORDS, CONVOCATION, STATISTICS, SCHEDULING AND EXAMINATION), was the 2003 recipient of UTSC's Patrick Phillips Award for Staff Service, given to a deserving staff member who "displays competence, commitment, courtesy and concern for others routinely" and who, "without fanfare or self-promotion, contributes daily to the success of the college." Cited as a problem solver, making things run smoothly while applying the high standards of the university, she "nevertheless ensured that no student ever be put at a disadvantage."

MARILYN KWAN, HUMAN RESOURCES GENERALIST AT UTSC, received a 10 Year Provincial Volunteer Recognition Award Nov. 24 for her work with Girl Guides of Canada, Toronto Area. Kwan began working with Girl Guides as an adult leader in September 1992 and has held various positions since, most currently as Agincourt International divisional adviser, promoting international travel to girls and adults within Girl Guides. Although the award recognizes 10 years of service, she is currently in her 12th year with Girl Guides.

THE UTSC ALL STAR SPORTS CAMP, RUN BY PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ATHLETICS, RECEIVED THE 2003 CORPORATE EXCELLENCE AWARD OF THE SCARBOROUGH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. The award, presented at the Business Excellence Awards gala Nov. 6 at the Delta Toronto East Hotel, recognized the camp for its contribution to the quality of life in the Scarborough area and for its excellent working conditions.

TRANSITIONAL YEAR PROGRAM

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO STEPS TO UNIVERSITY, TRANSITIONAL YEAR PROGRAM, RECEIVED A CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION NOV. 17 FROM THE TORONTO DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD FOR ITS OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION AS A PARTNER OF THE BOARD IN PROVIDING INNOVATIVE PROGRAM ENHANCEMENTS THAT ENRICH STUDENTS' EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES. KEREN BRAITHWAITE, CO-FOUNDER OF TYP ALSO RECEIVED A CERTIFICATE.



University Bolsters GTA Economy

By Susan Bloch-Nevitte

U OF T PUMPS AN ESTIMATED \$4.7 billion into the economy of the Greater Toronto Area each year, a sum greater than the gross domestic product of Prince Edward Island.

As a key player in the GTA economy, the university is backing the Toronto Board of Trade's initiative, Enough of Not Enough. Just launched, the six-week campaign is directed at the provincial and federal governments for increased investment in and support of Toronto. The public is being asked to contact MPs and MPPs to press for "adequate and predictable investment to ensure Toronto's competitiveness and vibrancy," according to the campaign's website (www.RealTorontoSolutions.ca).

"I can think of almost no example where a great city is not anchored by a great university," said President Robert Birgeneau. "Universities contribute to urban life in many ways including very directly to the economy. The success of this effort to revitalize Canada's largest city is central to our own ambitions as one of the world's leading public teaching and research universities. At its best, Toronto is a magnet for top faculty, students and staff. In turn, they lend their creativity and energy to Toronto and so contribute to our economy, health and cultural life."

With 11,000 employees, U of T is the GTA's 15th largest employer; its payroll has an economic impact of nearly \$396 million, or up to \$634 million with the multiplier effect where every dollar spent generates approximately 60 cents spent elsewhere.

"You could say we're an ideal neighbour," Birgeneau said. "We're not only Canada's leading teaching and research university; we're a major employer and economic engine in virtually every sector of society." The university, he added, plays a considerable role in the social and cultural fabric of its larger community, a point echoed by Professor Larry Bourne of geography and the Centre for Urban and Community Studies.

"It is difficult to over-estimate the importance of education, culture and social capital to the quality of life in cities. In many ways they represent the intangibles that, through the multiplier effect, produce tangible results by attracting investment and drawing in others with similar skills and interests."

Some 62,000 students spent \$374 million during the nine months from September 2001 to May 2002 (approximately \$6,000 per student), not counting direct payments to the university for tuition, residence, books and fees. With the multiplier effect, the economic impact is approximately \$600 million.

Alumni also contribute to the

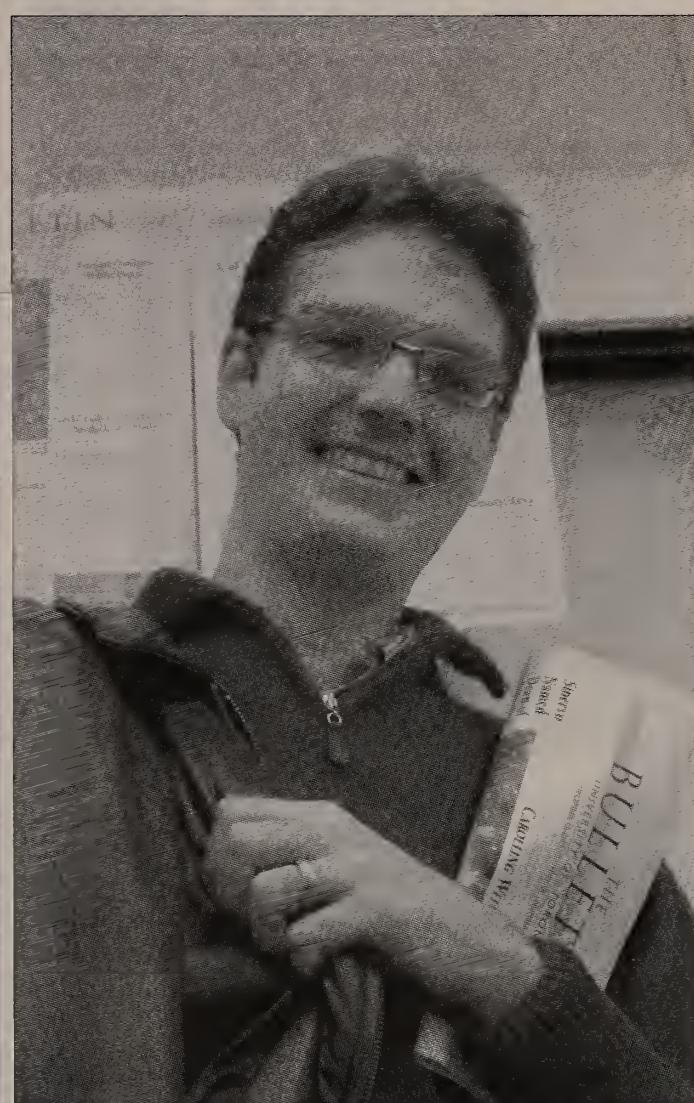
university's robust economic impact, including 8,500 graduates every year who stay in or near the city. Taking into account earning differentials associated with having a university degree and the multiplier effect, Toronto area alumni provide an annual economic impact of as much as \$3 billion before tax.

These figures do not include several million dollars spent by student organizations or by retired employees who live in the region, or by visitors to the university — including students' families, conference attendees and individuals who attend sporting and cultural events.

In 2002-2003, non-salary and benefit expenditures, including furniture, books and extensive research activities, amounted to approximately \$480 million. By conservative estimates, 65 per cent of these expenditures are local, meaning that U of T adds about \$310 million to the local economy through direct purchases and as much as \$498 million with the multiplier effect.

Overall, U of T generates \$1.11 for every dollar of government funding through student fees, investment income, sales and services, contract research, donations and other grants. In 2002-2003, government grants totalled \$670.8 million — 75.4 per cent from the province and 24.6 per cent from the federal government.

THE WINNER IS ...



PASCAL PAQUETTE

Michael Ullyot, a PhD candidate in English, sports the new U of T leather jacket he won for filling out The Bulletin's readership survey last spring. His name was randomly chosen from the 329 survey respondents. Complete results of the biennial survey will be published in the Jan. 26 issue.

Bed Bugs Bite Back

Experts puzzled by reappearance of puny pests

NOT LETTING THE BED BUGS BITE may be easier said than done. Bed bugs, according to a U of T entomologist, are back.

"Bed bugs were once a common urban plague. But with the development of synthetic insecticides such as DDT and spray systems during the Second World War they were largely eliminated," said Professor Tim Myles, an urban entomologist and author of the study published in a research bulletin from U of T's Centre for Urban and Community Studies. Myles said reports of bed bugs by Toronto pest control companies and pest control officials started to increase two years ago.

In 2002 homeless people told street nurses that bed bugs were a priority medical issue. This year at least a dozen shelters, hostels and other forms of public housing had ongoing problems with bed bugs despite spraying by pest control companies. "The situation merits attentive monitoring. At present, it is not clear to what extent, if at all, such monitoring is currently in place in the Toronto public health system," Myles said.

Experts are unsure what is causing the resurgence but believe

several factors may be playing a role including changes in registered pesticides, use patterns, residual levels and pesticide resistance; socioeconomic unhygienic conditions; a populace that has forgotten how to monitor for and control bed bugs; and greater mobility that allows the insects to spread more quickly to a wide number of establishments including hostels, shelters, dormitories, prisons, hospitals and hotels.

What can be done to eliminate the nocturnal nuisance? In addition to using commercial pesticides, the researchers also

encourage greater awareness, early reporting and monitoring, cleaning efforts by rooming house and hostel residents and an integrated approach to pest management.

Non-chemical approaches include thorough searching and mechanical destruction of bugs and eggs along with laundering of bedding, frequent vacuuming and brushing mattress seams. Researchers also point to the effectiveness of sticky traps and even simple carpet tape, which, placed around a bed or bed legs can trap the bugs.



Camera-Phones Banned

THE FACULTY OF PHYSICAL Education and Health (PEH) has begun an awareness campaign to ban the use of cell phones with built-in cameras in its facilities.

Other Canadian and American athletic facilities have instituted such a ban against the use of these phones, which can take pictures and instantly transmit them to other phones and websites.

"We are instituting this campaign due to concerns in areas that require complete discretion and privacy," said Karen Lewis, assistant dean (administra-

tive services). "However, we have to rely on our members as well to assist us if they see anyone engaging in behaviour that they know is against the rules." Posters will be placed in locker rooms and other areas, she said.

Hart House is also developing a similar policy for its facility, said Margaret Hancock, Hart House warden.

U of T at Mississauga has already instituted privacy safeguards while U of T at Scarborough will follow the same guidelines as put forward by PEH.

Leading Researchers Receive Major SSHRC Grants

By Michah Rynor

PROFESSORS ANDREW CLEMENT of the Faculty of Information Studies and the Knowledge Media Design Institute and Jack Quarter of the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education of the University of Toronto have been awarded almost \$1.8 million over three years by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council's Initiative on the New Economy (INE).

Clement and his team will use their grant of \$899,450 to determine the effectiveness of public Internet access (community networking) in promoting social and economic development in Canada.

"Enormous civic volunteer energy and hundreds of millions of dollars of public funds have gone into innovative non-profit community-based initiatives aimed at developing publicly accessible Internet services," Clement said. "This investment has made Canada a world leader in community networking but so far there has been no systematic assessment of the results and prospects for the future. We plan to review the process made by community networks in meeting

social and economic needs, investigate alternative models and assist networks in establishing a sustainable basis."

Quarter and his team will use their \$900,000 grant to determine the impact of the socially responsible investment practices of pension funds, explore the obstacles to this type of investment and develop an education plan for union trustees.

"Trusted pension plans, managed by representatives from unions and employers, alone are worth approximately \$544 billion," Quarter said. "And traditionally, unions have not played a significant role in the investment of these funds. But concerns about how these large pools of capital have been managed has led to unions seeking a more active role in managing their members' investments."

The new knowledge created by Clement and Quarter will have a direct impact on key aspects of how Canadians live for years to come, said Professor John Challis, vice-president (research) and associate provost. "SSHRC's INE grants program is proving to be an essential engine of vital research for our social scientists and humanists," he said.

HART HOUSE

University of Toronto
Weekly Events

get in here

Monday January 12

Amateur Radio Club Open Meeting - 5:30pm in the South Dining Room. All welcome.
Rifle Club Open Meeting - 4pm in the Debates Room. Bring government photo ID, current UofT student card or senior members card, and \$15.

Wednesday, January 14

5-BUCK Lunch - Welcome 2004! 11:30am-2pm in the Great Hall.
Graduate Committee Dinner Series - Christopher Moore, "Confederation Politics". 6pm reception for 6:30pm dinner. Single tickets: Alumni members/guests \$45, U of T students \$25. 416.978.4732

Rifle Club Open Meeting - 4pm in the Debates Room. Bring government photo ID, current UofT student card or senior members card, and \$15.
Revolver Club Mandatory Open Meeting - 7pm in the Debates Room. Bring government photo ID, current UofT student card or senior members card, and \$15.

Friday, January 16

Deadline for Lit & Lib Contests - 22nd Annual Literary Contest and The Hart House Review - midnight. Prizes \$200, \$150, \$100.
Jazz at Oscar's - Swing Jazz with Glen Anderson, 9pm in the Arbor Room. Free. Licensed. No cover.

Sunday, January 18

600th Sunday Concert Gala - 8pm in the Great Hall, featuring William Aide, Andrew Dawe and Jane Coop, Michael Calvin and Mary Bella, and Trio Lyra.

Tuesday, January 20

Underwater Club - Winter course runs Tuesday evenings from Jan. 20 Apr. 6. E mail: mfkummerer@yahoo.com to register. Certification is available following the course.

Friday, January 23

Jazz at Oscar's - "Basstext", featuring sound poet, Nicole Stamp, 9pm in the Arbor Room. Free. Licensed. No cover.

Saturday, January 24

Winter Carnival at Hart House Farm - cross-country skiing, skating, baseball, volleyball, sauna. Lunch and dinner. Busses depart from Hart House at 10:30am, Return 7pm. Advance sales to Jan. 22 \$24 with bus, \$19 without. After Jan. 22 \$29 with bus, \$24 without. Families and children welcome. Children's rates available. Purchase tickets at Hall Porters' Desk.

UPCOMING

Camera Club Annual Photographic Competition - Deadline: 11:30pm Thurs. Mar. 4.
Lit & Lib Contests - 2004 Poetry Prize - Deadline, midnight, Feb. 6.

ART 416.978.8398

The Justina M. Barnicke Gallery - "From Phillips to the Future", Canadian prints from the Hart House Permanent Collection. Runs to Jan. 29.

ATHLETICS 416.978.2447

Sign up now for the Annual Indoor Triathlon scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 14th, 2004

HART HOUSE THEATRE Box Office: 416.978.8668

John Mighton's Governor General's Literary award winning Possible Worlds, produced by the Hart House Drama Society. Tickets: \$15/\$12 students & seniors. Jan 14-24 (Week1: Wed-Sat 8pm; Week2: Wed-Sat 8pm & Sat 2pm) Part of Hart House Theatre's 2003-2004 Season.

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2004

Sunday 18 January at 3 p.m. **Tim Richardson**
Windows into Life,
the Universe and Everything Richardson Technologies

Sunday 25 January at 3 p.m. **Tony Pawson**
After the Genome: Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute,
Assembling Human Cells Mt. Sinai Hospital

Sunday 1 February at 3 p.m. **Nigel Waltho**
Banff National Park Faculty of Environmental
in Cardiac Arrest: Studies, York University
the Need to Defibrillate

Sunday 8 February at 3 p.m. **Marc Garneau**
Mission: Mars President, Canadian Space Agency

Sunday 22 February at 3 p.m. **Peter A. Taylor**
Snow and Ice Research Dept. of Earth and Space Science
in Canada's Far North and Engineering, York University
Kathy L. Young Department of Geography, York University

Sunday 29 February at 3 p.m. **Lila Kari**
***How Does Nature Compute?** Department of Computer Science,
University of Western Ontario
*Co-sponsor: The Fields Institute for Research in Mathematical Sciences

Sunday 7 March at 3 p.m. - **for kids ages 7-12**
explore science through hands-on and minds-on activities
by University of Toronto Students
and Let's Talk Science Program

Med School Leaders Have Shorter Lives

-Continued From Page 1-

year class presidents, said she and her co-president also found the results humorous. "We like to think that it won't hold true for us," she said. However, she does agree that the risk of letting a career in medicine consume one's life is very real, regardless of whether they are class president or not. "We're all predominantly Type-A personalities so for everyone there is always something interesting going on or new to learn. So it's really important for everybody to keep in mind what your interests in

life are and that medicine is a part of your life but it shouldn't be your whole life."

Hale also joked that she may very well outlive her classmates. At 30, she is one of the older students in her class, whose average age she guesses at 25 or 26. If the study's post-graduation lifespan of 50 years is correct, Hale figures she'll live at least two years longer than everybody else.

However, both Pinto and Hale agree that the study does raise a red flag about the need for physicians to maintain a balanced lifestyle. "We were told

from the first day of medical school that physicians are more likely to experience substance abuse problems, divorce, things like that," said Pinto, adding that this study has become part of their training to take better care of themselves.

For everyone, balanced lifestyles wax and wane depending on the workload, said Hale. "But you always try to achieve [that balance] so if you get a little bit more time, you try to spend it doing whatever you enjoy doing, whether it be working out or seeing friends or going to see a movie."

PhD Student Discovers Genetic Key

-Continued From Page 1-

the 1918 Spanish flu pandemic that killed over 20 million people worldwide. Guttman said this type of genetic change can have far more dramatic consequences than simple genetic mutations, in which only small features in genes are changed at any one time.

"These recombination events have the potential to create an entirely new structure essentially instantaneously," he said. "Since our immune systems have never seen this new viral form, it is more difficult for them to respond to it

in a timely and effective manner."

Stavrinides and Guttman's findings were published in the January issue of the *Journal of Virology*. Although an effective vaccine for SARS is years away, the study offers another piece to the puzzle. "We hope that this work will contribute to the design of specific and effective vaccines," Guttman said, "but perhaps it will be most useful in the development of tests for the diagnosis of new SARS outbreaks. We will be in a much better position to recognize new and potentially deadly viral outbreaks if we can identify the

specific evolutionary changes that made SARS so deadly."

The project garnered Stavrinides an A and received extensive international coverage in media outlets as far-reaching as Al-Jazeera and BBC News, but he's not resting on his laurels. While his PhD work centres on bacteria instead of viruses, he said what he learned working with SARS was invaluable.

"In our field, you can apply all the tools and concepts to virtually any system," said Stavrinides, who is studying plant pathogens. "That's the power of evolutionary study."

UTP



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EMOTIONAL RESCUE

New course looks at managing emotions in the workplace

BY MARY ANN GRATTON

IF YOU'VE EVER HAD A BOSS WHO JUST DID NOT UNDERSTAND your feelings, rest assured. You're not alone. Diana Brink, a second-year MBA student at the Rotman School of Management, says it is amazing how many managers in the business world seem unaware of their employees' and co-workers' feelings. She hopes to work as a manager at a large company after completing her



degree and wants to be a good leader. Brink says good leaders understand emotions and how feelings affect behaviour.

"Just because someone cries at work, that does not mean they are a basket case," she says. "It could be that something very simple has gone wrong and the important thing is why it happens. If you can get to why, you can get to preventing it."

Brink was one of 22 students in a pioneering course on the "emotionally intelligent manager" being offered at Rotman for the first time this year. The course is believed to be the first emotions course on a Canadian MBA curriculum; only a few American MBA schools offer such courses.

"It was a demanding course with lots of research and

cases and a high level of interaction," Brink says. "It's clear that some managers are much more attuned to people around them and we discussed how we can develop these skills. There are many lessons I will apply on the spot when I face situations in the workplace."

The course, a second-year elective, was developed by John Oesch and Stéphane Côté, both assistant professors of organizational behaviour. Oesch, who taught the class last semester, says students learn about the effects of mood and emotion on job performance, decision-making, communication, negotiation, marketing, leadership and organizational change.

"We are training people to be good leaders and since emotional intelligence is one of the best predictors of good leadership, more students are becoming interested in this area," Oesch says. "We demonstrate that emotions have a huge effect on behaviour. As a manager, the more you understand how emotions affect people, the better you



Diana Brink



will understand and lead people."

Some faculty members who believe the markets have no feelings are skeptical, Oesch says. "And while that may be true, the human beings who invest in the markets, who profit from them and who work in them, do have feelings and those feelings affect their behaviour. By looking at the last 50 years we can demonstrate that human beings do not behave rationally, so instead of arguing that they do, we explore why they don't."

Emotional intelligence can be taught, he says. "The first part is understanding your own emotions and how to regulate them; the second is developing the skills to read and understand other people's emotions and these are learned skills. These tools will help you to motivate employees by understanding and reading them better."

Oesch predicts that more business schools will put emotional intelligence courses on the curriculum. "Once students learn that the best leaders have high emotional intelligence, that is a hook for them."

UTM Gym Steps Up to Wellness Centre

By Lisa Boyes

UOF T AT MISSISSAUGA WILL finally have a new recreation and wellness facility in 2006, thanks to UTM students who are contributing \$16 million to the project through a levy.

Four studies over the past 13 years have emphasized the need for upgraded and expanded facilities. At the conclusion of the most recent study in March 2002, student leaders, through the campus' Quality Service to Students council, voted by overwhelming majority to institute a student levy to help finance the project. In November 2003, the council, representing all student governments and major student services and administration, confirmed its approval for the total increase.

"Our current space is worse than what's available in many high schools. We're at 8,000 students now and growing to 11,000 soon, packed into recreation facilities built for a campus of 2,000," said Adil Mirza, president of the Erindale College Student Union. "It's great to move this proposal into action."

The additional facilities will equip UTM to be proactive in preventing the serious health concerns being reported in

elementary, junior and high schools due to inactivity, said Ken Duncliffe, director of physical education, recreation and athletics. "We need these facilities in order to offer a broad range of options that will engage our students in healthier lifestyles," he said.

The centre will include a new building, more than two times larger than the current student centre (opened in 1999) plus renovation of the original gym, fitness area and squash courts facility within the campus' South Building. Plans call for a 25-metre, eight-lane swimming pool with a depth-adjustable floor; an additional double gym equipped with retractable seating for 1,000 that can be divided for multiple purposes; a fitness centre equipped to serve three times more participants and an elevated walking/jogging/running track; renovation of existing squash courts; a sports medicine/hydrotherapy clinic; expanded locker rooms and administration space.

Since last September, UTM full-time students have been paying an additional \$25 in ancillary fees for the wellness centre with part-time students paying an additional \$5.15. When the facility is open, the levy will increase to

\$150 per full-time student and \$30 per part-time student. The capital levy will be removed once the centre's mortgage is paid off.

Not all students backed their leaders' decision to support the fee increase, however. Some had argued that taking the question to a student referendum would be more appropriate even though the university's guidelines on student fees did not require one in this case.

"The proposed level of student financial support wasn't without controversy, but students realize the importance of these kinds of

facilities, keeping their bodies healthy so their minds stay sharp," said Huda Muhammed, president of the UTM Athletic Council.

The centre's impact is likely to reach beyond the campus as there are plans to partner with the city of Mississauga as well as local health agencies to develop community wellness programs, such as nutrition counselling and health promotion. It will also be designed as a local "green" showcase of sustainable architecture, environment-friendly engineering

systems and alternative energy.

The University of Toronto and UTM are together providing \$8 million to augment the students' \$16 million contribution. The remaining \$500,000 for the \$24.5 million centre will be raised through soliciting UTM alumni and other donors. User fees paid by UTM staff, faculty and the external community will be competitive and will help offset the cost of operating the centre. The architectural firm Shore Tilbe Irwin and Partners has been chosen to design the facility.



Artist's model of new centre

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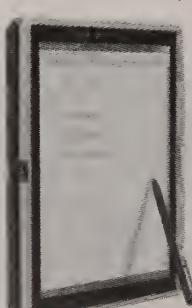
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PAYING IT FORWARD

Law students donate wages to fund internships for others

By SUE TOYE

IT'S NOT EXACTLY LIFE imitating art but for one U of T law student, it's close. Instead of random acts of kindness as in the movie Pay It Forward, the Faculty of Law's Pay It Forward initiative, launched by David Wei last summer, helps fund internships for students in the international human rights program with non-government agencies around the world.

Students can either spend the entire summer internship, with funding from the law school, at a human rights organization or they can split their time working at a law firm and volunteering (with funding from the firm) at a not-for-profit organization. But there are only a limited number of internships in the international human rights program and this is where Wei's initiative comes in.

Wei was one of 14 law students in the program who had chosen to split the internship; he worked at Cassels Brock in Toronto and volunteered at Human Rights Watch in New York City. When he found out that the law school was only able to fund 15 of the 36 proposals submitted by students wanting to spend the entire internship at a not-for-profit organization, he decided to act.

Last February Wei convinced nine of his classmates who opted for the split internship to pledge, on average, a day's wages to start a fund for those who chose to spend the entire internship at a human rights organization. (He got the idea from a similar



David Wei

initiative at Yale University where he completed his undergraduate degree.) He raised \$2,500, which was triple-matched by the faculty, Cassels Brock and a personal contribution from law alumna Joanne Rosen for a total of \$15,000 — enough to fund three more internships this past summer. "It's meant to show support from students for other students," he says.

Sarah Perkins is one of three students who directly benefited from Wei's idea. She spent the month of August interning with Great Ape Alliance, a non-profit conservation organization in Cameroon, Africa. "At first, I was disappointed because I put my heart and soul into my proposal,"

says Perkins, who has a strong interest in environmental law and human rights issues. "So when I found out I got the money, I was delighted because this is the type of work I went to law school for." While in Cameroon, Perkins examined the environmental and social impacts on indigenous groups of an oil pipeline being built in the region.

Wei wants to ask all second-year law students in the future to "make a promise" to donate a day's wages during their summer internships at a law firm and have it matched by that firm, faculty and alumni. "You can make a donation of a day's salary and if you do, we can make it much, much bigger than a day."

Not Enough Women in Skilled Trades: Study

By Michah Rynor

DESPITE A BUILDING BOOM throughout Ontario and a lack of experienced, homegrown construction workers, few women are jumping into the skilled trades as bricklayers, plumbers and electricians, according to Professor Paula Bourne, co-ordinator of the Centre for Women's Studies in Education at OISE/UT.

Bourne, who is conducting research into why so few women are entering the trades occupations, believes the media portrayal of equality for women is in fact more wishful than realistic.

"The media depicts a positive image of girls outperforming boys academically but the working world remains very gendered," Bourne said. "Canadian statistics as of 2002 show that 70 per cent of women are still working in the traditionally female

areas of health care, education, sales and clerical positions."

However, these overly optimistic images of women are not confined to media, Bourne added; textbooks are also giving a slanted picture of success Bourne says.

"Textbooks often have progressive covers and illustrations showing women as non-traditional workers but the inside text doesn't support these visuals," she said. "As well, having a majority of Canadian females now attending colleges and universities gives us the impression that success is being made in all occupations but this doesn't translate into women making inroads into the traditionally male occupations."

Bourne said there are a number of reasons why women aren't opting for trades work and one of those reasons is parental disapproval.

"The majority of moms and

dads still want their children to go on to higher education and are biased against having a blue-collar worker in the family," she said. "As well, the trades still have an image problem with females who see this kind of work as dirty, unattractive and hostile towards women. And with high school programs in what was once called the industrial arts being cut, female students have less exposure to this kind of work."

Bourne has noticed another worrying trend in schools where the majority of guest speakers from the skilled trades are also men. "We need to bring in strong, inspiring female role models into our schools," she said. Her research will include studying how school programs can promote more participation of female students in technological courses that lead to careers in the non-traditional construction trades and hopes to have preliminary results by late 2005.

OPTIMAL CONVERGENCE

Wilson Centre a place where researchers think outside the box

By JANET WONG

IT'S RATHER DIFFICULT TO PIGEON-HOLE THE BREED OF researchers associated with the Wilson Centre.

The U of T Faculty of Medicine Donald R. Wilson Centre for Research in Education at the University Health Network (as it's formally known) acts as a unique convergence point for a vast range of researchers and scientists from seemingly unrelated disciplines.

"It is a strange kind of convergence. It really is, and yet when you think about it, it makes so much sense," says Professor Shiphra Ginsburg of respirology and Mount Sinai Hospital.

Ginsburg, who also has a master's degree in the higher education program for health professionals from OISE/UT, is currently conducting research with a cognitive psychologist and a rhetorician on how medical students are taught about professionalism. "Who would have thought that we three people would work together and be so effective? But it's because we have such complementary knowledge bases and skills."

Her research aims to understand what students really think professionalism is. "It's not just adhering to a set of abstract principles; it's how to make decisions, how to act professionally in specific contexts when there are certain things or values that are in conflict," she says. "We're now spending a lot of time looking at how students resolve the conflict and how they decide which the most appropriate action is."

Professor Glenn Regehr of psychiatry, associate director of the centre, brings his expertise in cognitive psychology to the group. "We come from these very broad perspectives and we come together for the

purposes of interacting with each other and collaborating and expanding our understanding of good science and practice in health profession education," he says. "Little of the work we do as PhDs is done without extensive collaboration with health professionals who are engaged in the professional activity of education of other health professionals."

He says the mandate of the unit is to improve the practice and science of health professional education through multidisciplinary and multi-professional collaborations on research. PhD faculty come from a wide variety of disciplines, mostly from the social sciences and humanities but also from the natural sciences. Jointly funded by U of T and the University Health Network, the centre has six core PhD research faculty, two professors emeriti and some 150 associated members from the health care professions and other fields.

So, says Regehr, it's entirely possible to have a cognitive psychologist, a kinesiologist and a rhetorician sitting in the same room talking about expertise in surgical teams because there is a cognitive, performance and social aspect to those teams. "We can bring those three backgrounds together and take advantage of each other's skill sets."

This marrying of theory and practice, he says, will better communication skills and improve the educational experience for those heading into the various health professions. "What we are trying to do is improve education in the health care system for the purposes of improving patient care. If we can make our health care professionals better, then that will ultimately manifest itself in better patient care. And that's one of the core missions of our mandate."



Professor Glenn Regehr

Best Buddies Lend a Hand

By Jamie Harrison

REACHING OUT TO THOSE LEFT behind is the main focus of a group of dedicated University of Toronto students.

Through Best Buddies Canada, undergraduate students share their time and enthusiasm, devoting a number of hours each month to befriending young adults with developmental disabilities.

"I transferred to U of T in my third year from UCLA, where I was involved with Best Buddies," said Sumeet Syam, a 21-year-old fourth-year history student. "I was looking to join when I transferred here, only to find that there was no chapter at the St. George campus." Syam and Andrea Nickel, a 22-year-old political science major at University College, founded the St. George chapter in September.

Founded by a Georgetown University student in 1987, Best Buddies is an international charitable organization dedicated to enhancing communities through one-on-one friendships between students and people with

intellectual disabilities. The first Canadian chapter was established in 1993. At its core is the belief that friendship helps people with intellectual disabilities better integrate into their communities. The program gives them the chance to experience what most people take for granted — going for coffee, skating or taking in a movie.

"We had our challenges starting the program," Nickel said. "There was a lot of red tape to go through getting our chapter recognized as an official club. The Best Buddies constitution has specific restrictions because we're working with vulnerable people."

Carol Martin, executive director of Best Buddies Canada, is thrilled to have a chapter on the university's main campus. "Best Buddies couldn't operate without student involvement and at U of T it has been excellent," Martin said. "Our students always find that they get more from the program than they ever expected. To have a friend who is so eager to share their lives with them is always a great pleasure and an eye-opening experience."

The St. George chapter is associated with Community Living Toronto, a community aid organization. Potential student buddies are interviewed and have a police background check before being accepted into the program.

The level of commitment for the students involved is greater than most other student clubs but the rewards are worth it, according to Syam. "I think people are sometimes a little intimidated about becoming friends with intellectually challenged people. It's not as difficult to form friendships with the intellectually disabled as most people think."

For Nickel, the program is about developing lasting friendships. "Most of the buddies in the program live by themselves and are very high-functioning," she said. "We're just trying to get them into a more social setting and relieve some of the isolation that so often occurs."

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GIVE IT BACK

THE LARGEST CHARITABLE GIFT EVER MADE TO AN AMERICAN institution of higher learning could soon be the largest refund. A Princeton University foundation benefactor, William Robertson, wants the university to give back his family's \$525 million donation. Robertson says the money was intended to churn out the future leaders of the federal government. Instead, he says, Princeton graduates are heading to non-profit, private industry and universities. Princeton officials said the goal of channelling students into the federal government was "aspirational" and not a fixed number. The parties are in mediation.

NEW ROLE FOR WEAPONS EXPERTS

THE "NEW IRAQ" HAS A PLACE FOR ITS FORMER WEAPONS scientists — in academe. The U.S. State Department is developing a plan to use their expertise to revive scientific research in Iraq. Known as Science, Technology and Engineering Mentorship for Iraq, the program will sponsor research proposals by Iraqi scientists at \$450 per submission (more than a month's salary for Iraqi professors).

EXAMS SERIOUS BUSINESS

THIS YEAR'S COLLEGE ENTRY EXAMS WERE SERIOUS BUSINESS in South Korea. The scholastic ability test began at 8:10 a.m. on Nov. 5 when close to 640,000 hopefuls took their all-day exam. During this time, motorists could not drive or honk their horns within 200

metres of the site, U.S. forces refrained from military exercises and planes weren't allowed to take off or land during the listening-comprehension portions. The 150-plus workers responsible for printing the tests were even sequestered for 15 days.

MAKE EDUCATION, NOT WAR

SYRIA'S GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO END THE half-century-old practice of militarization in higher education. All soldiers and tanks will be removed from campus and military indoctrination courses will be abolished. Mandatory military training for college students has moved to the summer months, rather than taking up one day a week during the regular academic schedule.

SHOW ME THE MONEY

THE PRESTIGIOUS CANADA RESEARCH CHAIRS PROGRAM IS facing criticism of a gender bias. The billion-dollar program was created to attract world-class researchers, but now some are wondering why only 17 per cent of the 1,000 chairs have gone to women (26 per cent of full-time faculty are female). Last February, eight female researchers filed a complaint with the Canadian Human Rights Commission but mediation talks fell apart in mid-November. The complaint is now under further investigation.

Compiled by Karen Kelly

SOURCES: SEATTLE TIMES, CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

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SOME OF ITS PARTS

Civil engineer examines environmental impact of automobiles from plant to scrapyard

By NICOLLE WAHL

PROFESSOR HEATHER MACLEAN of civil engineering is the first to laugh at the irony.

Although she leads a national research team on automotive life-cycle assessments, studies the future of hybrid electric and hydrogen fuel cell cars and takes the subway to work, the car sitting in her driveway is a rusty 1987 BMW. And although she rarely drives it, her attachment to the vehicle speaks volumes about the challenges of shifting to newer, low-emission vehicles. "I like my car because I like how it feels to drive it," she says ruefully.

But MacLean also has a unique grasp of the impact of automobiles on the environment. As co-ordinator of a national research team using a cradle-to-grave approach to examining the creation, use and disposal of automobiles in Canada's auto sector, MacLean is looking for ways to enhance these systems in the future, affecting both conventional and alternative fuel/propulsion system vehicles.

The team was recently awarded \$315,000 from the AUTO21 Network of Centres of Excellence and several industry sponsors to study how methods such as life-cycle assessment are perceived and utilized in the automobile industry and whether barriers exist to widespread use. It will also look at case studies examining such issues as technological advances in the industry and their implications throughout the life cycle of the vehicle.

Japan and some European countries have end-of-life directives when it comes to vehicles, says MacLean, which the North American auto industry is studying should similar policies be developed here. For example, before a car is scrapped some parts are removed and reused, remanufactured or recycled. "If manufacturers were responsible for their vehicles at the end of life, they would most likely do things somewhat differently," she says.

MacLean's team will measure factors such as greenhouse gas emissions, air pollution, solid waste generation and



releases of toxic materials from both conventional and alternative fuel/propulsion vehicles (such as hybrid electric systems and fuel cells). For biofuel-powered cells, she notes, they might examine factors such as amount of land used or fertilizer application. Hydrogen fuel cells may produce emission-free vehicles, but the origin of the hydrogen may itself produce pollution. Or if a car runs on "clean" battery power, how much do the batteries cost, how long do they last and are they charged with electricity from a coal-fired power plant?

MacLean completed her bachelor's degree in civil engineering at Dalhousie University and followed up with an MBA from St. Mary's University. Her initial career plans involved the manufacturing industry and she spent several

years doing environmental engineering consulting work. But she ultimately decided to pursue further education that would mesh both public policy and engineering.

She ended up at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Penn., where she completed both her master's and PhD. During her doctoral work there, MacLean looked at the environmental impact of alternative technologies for automobiles, which eventually led to her research on life-cycle analysis.

MacLean says that while alternative automobile technology has advanced, many economic issues remain unresolved. "They're much more costly to manufacture," she says. "Companies aren't making any profits on these things," and, she adds, manufacturers aren't making many of these vehicles.

Nor are consumers buying. According to MacLean, auto manufacturer surveys have found that while people say they're willing to pay more for an environmentally friendly vehicle, in practice they wouldn't. "Unless the costs are basically equivalent to what they could get for a gasoline vehicle, the alternative isn't going to sell, except to a very small number of people who are willing to buy green."

And MacLean admits that until it rusts badly or starts to cost too much money she is in no rush to replace her aging Beemer. "Why would I go out to buy a \$30,000 hybrid car and save a couple of emissions when I could continue to take the subway," she says. "If we continue to have very low-priced gasoline and fairly inexpensive vehicles, we're not paying a whole lot for the pollution that we're putting out."

And, she adds, people don't necessarily act out of a sense of responsibility or for the common good — they have to be motivated to do it because it's in their best interest. "Unless the government comes up with policies or incentive programs that help people make the best choices, then they're not going to."

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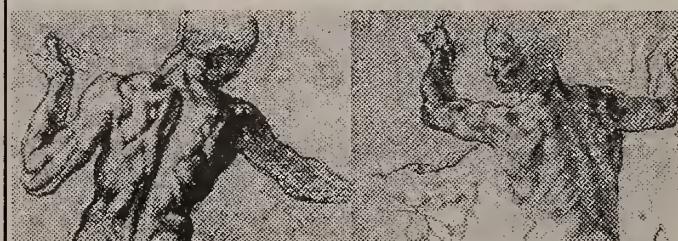
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LETTERS



NEW HIRES, NEW STANDARDS

When I came to the University of Toronto in 1972 as a new faculty member, I was offered extra

teaching at stipend rates as an incentive. Today's new hires are given reduced teaching loads and a research budget. Moreover, unlike previous generations of junior faculty, they are exempt from administrative responsibilities. Their reduced loads put an extra burden on senior faculty, whose ranks are depleted by attrition and retirements at a time when enrolments have increased and programs have proliferated.

ARTHUR RUBINOFF
POLITICAL SCIENCE

LETTERS DEADLINES

JANUARY 16 FOR JANUARY 26
JANUARY 23 FOR FEBRUARY 2
JANUARY 30 FOR FEBRUARY 9

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BOOKS



Educational Regimes and Anglo-American Democracy, by Ronald Manzer (U of T Press; 608 pages; \$75). This comparative study of schools in Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the U.K. and the U.S. focuses on five fundamental problems in the historical development of Anglo-American education regimes: the original creation of systems of elementary education in the 19th century as publicly provided and governed; the transformation of secondary schools in the early 20th century to match the emerging structure of occupational classes in capitalist industrial economies; the planning for secondary schools in the development of the welfare state; the accommodation of social diversity in public schools from the 1960s to the 1990s; and the educational reforms in the 1980s and 1990s that aimed to adapt public schools to the challenges of information technology and burgeoning global capitalism.

1930s, and then depicts his life as a wartime pilot. Student, Rhodes Scholar, agricultural economist at the Ontario Agricultural College, adviser for two years to the government of Jordan, professor of economics, associate dean, later college principal, all at U of T, adviser for five years to the government of Kenya, president of the University of Manitoba, director of international development at the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, all these roles — and embellishments — are described in the second half of the book.

McLuhan for Managers: New Tools for New Thinking (by Mark Federman and Derrick de Kerckhove (Viking Canada; 240 pages; \$37). Marshall McLuhan's core ideas and tools for discovery are clearly articulated in this book — a guide to thinking in today's rapidly changing business culture. More than 30 years ago McLuhan predicted the changes to business and society that we are now seeing. This book captures many of McLuhan's thinking approaches that afforded his uncanny predictive ability and applies them in a form that is of practical use to today's business leaders.

Freud's Theory of Culture: Eros Loss and Politics, by Abraham Drassinower (Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc.; 208 pages; \$65 cloth, \$29.95 paper). This book takes a fresh look at Sigmund Freud, countering his prevalent image as a thinker who pessimistically renounces the possibility of social, political and cultural change. It contends that what is generally mistaken as Freud's pessimism is, on the contrary, the very standpoint from which Freud envisions an alternative to the culture "malaise" described in his works.

Editing Robert Grosseteste, edited by Joseph Goering and Evelyn Mackie (U of T Press; 208 pages; \$39.95). Thirteenth-century theologian, philosopher and church leader, Robert Grosseteste was one of the most learned and respected scholars of his time. This collection of essays in the series on Editorial Problems offers historical and contextual discussion of several of Grosseteste's works including the *Super Psalterium*, *Le Chateau d'amour* and his translation of the pseudo-Dionysian *Ecclesiastical Hierarchy*. In addressing specific aspects of the editorial process the essays provide new insight into Grosseteste's work through the use of both traditional and cross-disciplinary approaches.

Brian Dickson: A Judge's Journey, by Robert J. Sharpe and Kent Roach (U of T Press; 624 pages; \$50). When Brian Dickson was appointed in 1973, the Supreme Court of Canada was preoccupied with run-of-the-mill disputes. By the time he retired as chief justice in 1990, the court had become a major national institution, very much in the public eye. Dickson played a leading role in this transformation. This book traces Dickson's life from a Depression-era boyhood in Saskatchewan to the battlefields of Normandy, the boardrooms of corporate Canada and high judicial office and provides an inside look at the work of the Supreme Court during its most crucial period.

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SPOTLIGHT ON RESEARCH

Reasonable People, Talking Robots

Gender bias found in court rulings

Gender bias exists in court rulings that use the "reasonable person" test, says Professor Mayo Moran of law. In the first systematic investigation of how the test plays out in the legal system, Moran found that courts often impose gender and other stereotypes when sentencing and assessing damages in civil and criminal cases. Her findings are compiled in her new book *Rethinking the Reasonable Person: An Egalitarian Reconstruction of the Objective Standard*.

"Something troubling" about the reasonable person test, Moran said, motivated her to explore the 166-year-old standard that is used by judges and commentators in all common law jurisdictions including North America, Australia, New Zealand and the U.K.

Recently changed from the reasonable man test, Moran wondered how judges used the test to treat children, women, homosexuals and persons with disabilities. When assessing whether damages should be awarded or whether a person should be found criminally liable, judges imagine what a fictional reasonable person would have done and then compare that with how the people involved actually behaved. But, Moran said, the reasonable person test brings stereotypes into the law and courts.

For example, after poring through hundreds of cases involving injured children, Moran said boys who cause accidents are often not blamed. She believes the courts see boys as naturally impulsive and reckless and people expect them to get into trouble whereas girls are seen as cautious and responsible.

"When little boys are injured while playing with dangerous things, courts often order others to compensate them because they couldn't help their attraction to danger," Moran said. "Although girls rarely injure others, when they do, they don't get compensated as frequently as injured boys."

Moran's research also found that men are more successful than women in claiming the

provocation defence in murder trials when their partner commits adultery. Men can also argue they were provoked and so have not been found as culpable if their murder victim was gay and made an unsolicited sexual advance.

KATHLEEN O'BRIEN

Atlantic Canadians tops in art of networking

Think you're well connected? If you live in the Atlantic provinces, you are, a U of T survey finds.

According to Professor Bonnie Erickson of sociology, people who reside on Canada's east coast know, on average, people in a wider range of occupations than do other Canadians. "There's been very little migration into the Atlantic region compared to other parts of Canada so networks have been able to develop over time," said Erickson, author of the study, *The Distribution of Gendered Social Capital*. "People in this region have also developed strong networks because they've had persistent economic hardships and need to rely on each other."

As part of the 2000 Canadian election survey, Erickson polled 1,537 Canadians across four regions on whether they knew anyone in each of 15 different occupations ranging from servers to lawyers. She found that those living in the Atlantic region were the best connected. They knew, on average, someone in 11 out of the 15 occupational categories; those polled in other regions knew someone in 10. The western provinces were second highest, followed by Ontario and Quebec.

The key to broadening one's social network is through volunteerism, Erickson said. "When you join a voluntary association, you get to meet people who have something in common with you and you also get to meet people who aren't exactly like you, so it's a great way to meet people."

Her survey, partially funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, is published in *The Creation and Returns of Social Capital* (Routledge).

SUE TOYE

Complementary medicine use high for prostate cancer

Almost one-third of Ontario men with prostate cancer are using complementary medicine in addition to conventional cancer treatment, a U of T study notes.

The numbers are a "wake-up call" to clinicians who may think elderly men (those most likely to be diagnosed with prostate cancer) are less likely to use complementary medicine, said Professor Heather Boon of the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, lead author of the study published in the November issue of the journal *Urology*. "Usually we see younger people and women as the most common users but clearly it's a phenomenon that's happening in all ages and all genders. Clinicians need to be aware of this and discuss it with their patients."

The study, based on a random sample survey of 696 Ontario men diagnosed with prostate cancer, found that 29.8 per cent of respondents used complementary medicine. Some 26.5 per cent of those used natural health products, most commonly vitamin E, saw palmetto and selenium. This finding raises concerns about the potential for adverse interactions, Boon said. For example, taking a product such as vitamin E — an antioxidant — might actually diminish the effectiveness of some conventional therapies because antioxidants may interfere with how some radiation therapy and chemotherapy work.

"For some of these products, it's not clear whether taking them at the same time as conventional therapy is a good idea or not,"

Boon said. "In most cases we don't have definitive evidence about whether they're bad or good." She noted that while saw palmetto, for example, may be useful in the management of benign enlarged prostate, it has not been proven effective against prostate cancer.

The study was funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and included co-researchers from U of T, the University of Western Ontario, Toronto-Sunnybrook Regional Cancer Centre, University Health Network and the London Regional Cancer Centre.

JESSICA WHITESIDE

Robot navigates using its own voice

In the past, museum guides carried a clipboard and waved a flag to help straggling tourists find the group. In the future — thanks to technology developed at the University of Toronto — talking robotic guides carrying a customized microchip and four-way speakers could lead tourists from exhibit to exhibit.

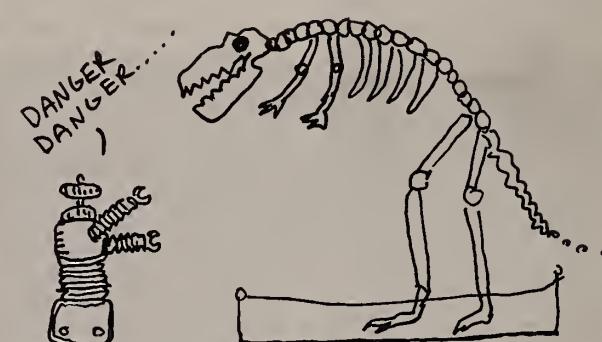
"This is a very unique solution to navigating," said Professor Parham Aarabi of electrical and computer engineering and lead researcher. "Using an array of

stationary microphones in the museum, this kind of system could accurately help the robot find its location using the sounds that it generates," said Aarabi, who holds the Canada Research Chair in Multi-Sensor Information Systems.

The robot consists of a motorized base and elevated speakers that play pre-recorded phrases. These are picked up by an array of microphones around the environment, which locate the robot on a master computer's virtual map. This computer then tells the robot where to move. If the robot encounters an object in its path using its hair-thin "whiskers," it backs up, reorients itself, then plots a new course around the obstacle.

Aarabi said the technology could be ready for use in less than two years and that robot guides could eventually answer questions from the crowd using speech recognition. Beyond museums, this technology could also be deployed in hazardous environments like collapsed structures or chemically contaminated buildings. The study appears in the Nov. 14 online issue of the journal *Information Fusion*.

NICOLE WAHL



MICHAEL ANDRECHUK

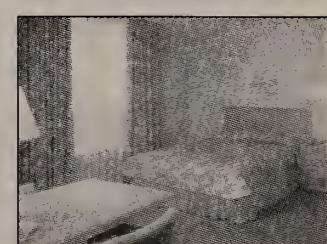
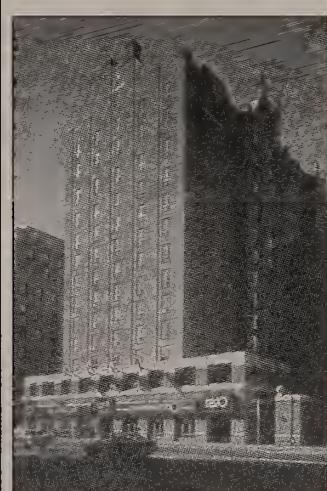


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Dr. Neil Pilkington (Psychologist). Assessment and individual, couples and group cognitive-behaviour therapy for anxiety/phobias, depression/low self-esteem, stress and anger management, couples issues and sexual identity/orientation concerns. Staff/faculty health care benefits provide full coverage. Morning, afternoon and evening appointments. Downtown/TTC. 416-977-5666. E-mail Dr.Neil.Pilkington@primus.ca

Psychotherapy for personal and relationship issues. Individual, group and couple therapy. U of T extended health plan provides coverage. For a consultation call Dr. Heather A. White, Psychologist, 416-535-9432, 140 Albany Avenue (Bathurst/Bloor).

Evelyn Sommers, Ph.D., Psychologist, provides psychotherapy and counselling for individuals and couples from age 17. Covered under U of T benefits. Yonge and Bloor. 416-413-1098 or e-mail for information package, eks@passport.ca

Individual psychotherapy for adults. Evening hours available. Extended benefits coverage for U of T staff. Dr. Paula Gardner, Registered Psychologist, 114 Maitland Street (Wellesley and Jarvis). 416-469-6317.

Dr. Cindy Wahler, Registered Psychologist. Yonge/St. Clair area. Individual and couple psychotherapy. Depression, relationship difficulties, women's issues, health issues, self-esteem. U of T extended health care plan covers psychological services. 416-961-0899. cwahler@sympatico.ca

Dr. Carol Musselman, Registered Psychologist. Psychotherapy for depression, anxiety, trauma and other mental health needs, relationship problems, issues related to gender, sexual orientation, disability. Day and evening appointments. Covered by extended health plans. 489 College Street, suite 206. 416-568-1100, cmusselman@oise.utoronto.ca

Swedish massage, acupuncture, naturopathy, other alternative medicine services. Direct insurance billing available for U of T staff. 80 Bloor St. West, suite 1100. 416-929-6958. www.PacificWellness.ca

Psychoanalysis & psychoanalytic psychotherapy for adolescents, adults, couples. U of T extended health benefits provide coverage. Dr. Klaus Wiedermann, Registered Psychologist, 176 St. George St., Tel: 416-962-6671.

Deborah Duggan, Ed.D., Psychologist. Facilitating growth and healing through a collaborative and respectful exploration into relationship issues, self-image, depression and the effects of childhood trauma. U of T benefits apply. 489 College St., suite 206. 416-694-6350.

Naturopathic doctor, EeVon Ling, licensed and registered. Holistic health care using nutrition, herbs, acupuncture, homeopathy, lifestyle counselling. Accepting referrals. Covered by many extended health plans. Direct insurance billing. 80 Bloor St. W., suite 1100. 416-929-6958. www.twotreesnaturopathy.ca

Images Salon and Spa offers Swedish massage, warm stone therapy and reflexology for stress. Tension and chronic pain relief starting at \$65 and covered by most health care plans. 8130 Sheppard Ave. East (at Morningside). 416-282-0881.

Psychotherapy offered by Dr. K.P. Simmons, Registered Psychologist. Call 416-529-8225 for appointment. Location: 730 Yonge St./Charles St., suite 226

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Knox College book sale, Feb. 4 & 5, 2004 to be held in Knox College Library, 59 St. George St. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Great books! Great bargains! Free Admission.

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Saturdays, January 2004
10, 17, 24*, 31 — 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Location Room 508 Sussex Clubhouse, 21 Sussex Ave.
9:30 - 10:20 a.m. Beginners - shorter sitting sessions
10:30 - 11:20 a.m. Experienced - longer sitting sessions
11:30 a.m. Lunch
The method taught will be mindfulness of the breath and body; and walking meditation all led by Bhikkhu Assaji (Theravada tradition).
A reminder that on *Jan 24, 2004, we will continue with afternoon meditation from 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Feel free to ask questions on meditation or Buddhism during these sessions.
If you'd like to attend, please e-mail Chris at (wisdom.tor@rogers.com) preferably by Thursday every week.

EVENTS



LECTURES

Republics of Love.

MONDAY, JANUARY 12

Deepa Mehta, filmmaker, with reading from Carol Shields' novel *Republics of Love* by Kristen Thomson; Taking Liberties: Adaptations & Transformations series. 140 University College. 4:10 p.m. University College

The Origin of the Gothic Portal and the Systematization of Public Imagery.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13

Prof. Conrad Rudolph, University of California at Riverdale; annual Peter H. Brieger memorial lecture. 140 University College. 4 p.m. Fine Art

Roman Wine, Enterprise and Economy in the Early Empire.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14

Prof. Jennifer Moore, Trent University 001 Emmanuel College, 75 Queen's Park Cres. 5:15 p.m. Archaeological Institute of America, Toronto Society

Historiography of Japan: Interpretations in the 20th Century and After.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16

Prof. Shigekazu Kondo, University of Tokyo; visiting Harvard University. 108N Munk Centre for International Studies. 10 a.m. to noon. Asian Institute, History and East Asian Studies

An Economic Invasion? Japanese-Backed Smuggling in North China, 1935-1937.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16

Prof. Emily Hill, Queen's University. 108N Munk Centre for International Studies. 12:30 to 2 p.m. Asian Institute

Urban Riots and Cricket: A Postscript to Levelling Crowds.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16

Prof. Stanley Tambiah, Harvard University; B.N. Pandey memorial lecture. Combination Room, Trinity College. 4 to 6 p.m. Asian Institute

La pastorale ou le plaisir du jeu.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21

Prof. Benoit Bolduc, French. Senior Common Room, Burwash Hall, Victoria College. 4:15 p.m. Toronto Renaissance & Reformation Colloquium

A Chinese Writer's World: A Puzzling Contradiction.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21

Prof. Hsiao-Wen Rupprecht, East Asian studies; Taking Liberties: Adaptations & Transformations series. 140 University College. 4:30 p.m. University College

The Healing Mind: Applications of Buddhist Psychology.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22

Prof. Tony Toneatto, public health sciences; Explore the Mind: Scientific & Spiritual Perspectives series. 1170 Bahen Centre for Information Technology. 6:15 to 8 p.m. U of T Buddhist Community and Buddhist Student Association



COLLOQUIA

The Affect System: Form Follows Function.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14

Prof. John Cacioppo, University of Chicago. 2117 Sidney Smith Hall. 4 p.m. Psychology

Creating a Language and Culture of Peace in a Jewish-Palestinian Village in Israel:

A Reflexive Ethnography.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16

Prof. Grace Feuerherger, curriculum, teaching and learning, OISE/UT. 4-414 OISE/UT, 252 Bloor St. W. 1:30 to 3 p.m. Modern Language Centre, OISE/UT

The Impact of Religion on Trudeau's Foreign Policy: Schooling at Bebeuf and an Analysis of His Ethical Approach to Foreign Policy.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20

Profs. Jacques Monet, Regis College, and John Bothwell, Centre for International Studies; Religion, International Diplomacy and Economics series. 208N Munk Centre for International Studies. Noon to 1:30 p.m. Trinity College, International Studies and Study of Religion

A Social Brain Sciences Approach to Examining the Self.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21

Prof. Todd Heatherington, Dartmouth College. 2117 Sidney Smith Hall. 4 p.m. Psychology

A Neutrality Dilemma: Swiss Foreign Policy and the Recognition of Divided States During the Cold War.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21

Urs Oberst, PhD candidate, history; history graduate-faculty series. 2090 Sidney Smith Hall. 4 to 6 p.m. History

Recording, Reckoning and Rithmetic: Rethinking the Spurious Functional Linkage Between Numeration and Mathematical Efficiency.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21

Prof. Stephen Chrisomalis, McGill University. 332 Northrop Frye Hall, Victoria University, 73 Queen's Park Cres. E. 4:10 p.m. History & Philosophy of Science & Technology

Participant Compensation and Its Implications.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22

Masood Zangeneh and Nigel Turner, Centre for Addiction & Mental Health.

Seeing the Workplace With New Eyes: An Introduction to Workplace Mapping.

Room 801, Clarke site, 250 College St. Noon. Addiction & Mental Health

The Ethical Review Process.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23

Prof. Dennis Thiessen, curriculum, teaching and learning, OISE/UT. 4-414 OISE/UT, 252 Bloor St. W. 1:30 to 3 p.m. Modern Language Centre, OISE/UT



SEMINARS

Transgenic Approaches to Alzheimer's Disease.

MONDAY, JANUARY 12

Prof. David Westaway, Centre for Research in Neurodegenerative Diseases. 2172 Medical Sciences Building. 4 p.m. Laboratory Medicine & Pathobiology



Recording, Reckoning and Rithmetic: Rethinking the Spurious Functional Linkage Between Numeration and Mathematical Efficiency.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21

Dorothy Wigmore, occupational hygienist, ergonomist and educator. 213 Koffler Institute for Pharmacy Management. 4 p.m. Environmental Studies and Gage Occupational & Environmental Health Unit

Socrates' Interlocutors and the Voices of Modernity in Plato's Republic.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16

Robert Wokler, University of Exeter. 3130 Sidney Smith Hall. 2 to 4 p.m. Political Science

Growing up Jewish in Communist Czechoslovakia: Identity Formation Among the Postwar Generation.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16

Prof. Alena Heitlinger, Trent University. 108N Munk Centre for International Studies. 2 to 4 p.m. Russian & East European Studies

Polyplody and Genome Evolution in the Crop Brassicas.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16

Prof. Lewis Lukens, University of Guelph. B142 Earth Sciences Centre. 3 p.m. Botany

On the Meaning of Global Warming.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21

Prof. Richard Lindzen, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. 116 Wallberg Building. 12:30 p.m. Chemical Engineering & Applied Chemistry

The Feminist Discourse of Ukrainian Modernism.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21

Vira Agayeva, Petro Jacyk visiting scholar. 108N Munk Centre for International Studies. 2 to 4 p.m. Petro Jacyk Program for the Study of Ukraine

The Jewish Communist and Other Myths: Interwar East European Politics Reconsidered.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22

Prof. Jeffrey Kopstein, political science. 108N Munk Centre for International Studies. Noon to 1:30 p.m. Russian & East European Studies

Three Little Valves: An Overlooked Gateway to Cardiopulmonary Physiology.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22

Prof. Joseph Fisher, anesthesiology. 3231 Medical Sciences Building. 4 p.m. Physiology

Expertise and Bureaucratic Power at the International Monetary Fund.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS: Elections Process for Alumni Governors and Chancellor

The Executive Committee of Governing Council has struck a Special Committee to Review the Election Process for Alumni Governors and Chancellor. This committee's work represents the first time that an external group has reviewed the process since 1986. Just as regulations concerning the election of members of other estates (such as teaching staff, administrative staff and students) are reviewed regularly, the Governing Council has felt it appropriate to review the election process for the other elected constituency, as well as for the Chancellor.

The Committee seeks input from interested parties to offer commentary and advice on the following points:

I – Election of Alumni Governors

Strategies for defining, expanding and strengthening a broad pool of candidates for alumni governor each year;
Strategies for recruiting and fostering excellent candidates for the long term;
Appropriate method for determining the attributes necessary for alumni governors each year;
Best practice for election of alumni representatives;
Methods of nomination and election for alumni governors, and processes and guidelines to ensure the election of the best possible candidates.

II – Election of the Chancellor

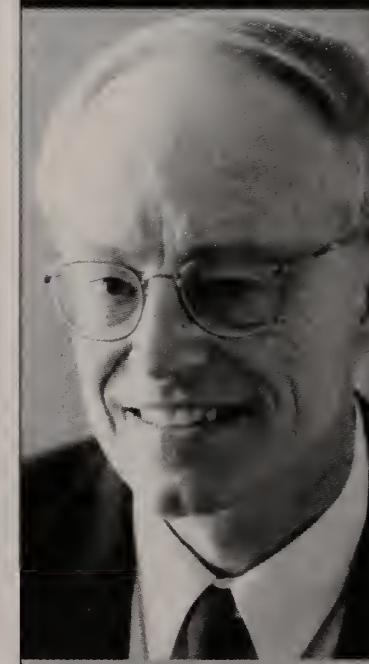
Best practice for election of the Chancellor;
Nomination, selection, interview and election processes and guidelines that will ensure an appropriate candidate pool and the election of the best possible candidate.

The Special Committee would like to emphasize that the mandate of the Review is to examine the election processes as thoroughly as possible and is willing to consider the widest variety of suggestions.

Please forward your submissions in care of the Committee's Secretary, Andrew Drummond, at the Office of the Governing Council, 106 Simcoe Hall, 27 King's College Circle, Toronto M5S 1A1, by fax at 416-978-8182, or by electronic mail to andrew.drummond@utoronto.ca by January 31, 2004.



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EVENTS

Prof. Martha Finnemore, George Washington University. 3130 Sidney Smith Hall. 2 to 4 p.m. Political Science and International Studies

MEETINGS & CONFERENCES

Committee on Academic Policy & Programs.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14
Council Chamber, Simcoe Hall. 4:10 p.m.

Academic Board.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15
Council Chamber, Simcoe Hall. 4:10 p.m.

Business Board.

MONDAY, JANUARY 19
Council Chamber, Simcoe Hall. 5 p.m.

University Affairs Board.

~~TUESDAY, JANUARY 20~~
Council Chamber, Simcoe Hall. 5 p.m.

MUSIC

REGIS COLLEGE

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14
An evening of chant through the ages, bringing together choirs from the various traditions of Christian chant, both East and West. Elliott MacGuigan Hall, 67 St. Nicholas St. 7:30 p.m.

FACULTY OF MUSIC EDWARD JOHNSON BUILDING Opera Tea.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18
Donizetti's *Don Pasquale*. MacMillan Theatre. 2:30 p.m. Tickets \$26.

Voice Performance Class.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20
First-year students perform. Walter Hall. 12:10 p.m.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27
Master class with Martin Isepp, John R. Stratton visiting artist. Walter Hall. 12:10 p.m.

New Music Festival.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20 TO
SATURDAY, JANUARY 24
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TUESDAY, JANUARY 20
Concert 1. Music Gallery, St. George the Martyr Anglican Church, 197 John St. 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21
Concert 2. Walter Hall. 8 p.m.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22
The Beat Goes On: Reflections on My Percussion Concerto, lecture by Joseph Schwanter, Roger D. Moore distinguished visitor in composition. Walter Hall. 12:10 p.m.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23
Concert 3. Walter Hall. 8 p.m.
Concert 4. Terry Riley: In C. Walter Hall. 11 p.m.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24
Concert 5. Walter Hall. 8 p.m.

HART HOUSE

Sunday Concert.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18

Gala concert celebrating the 600th Sunday concert at Hart House. Great Hall. 8 p.m.

PLAYS & READINGS



U of T Bookstore Series.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14
Brave tales from the dark ages: Jack Whyte returns to the reading series with his new novel *Clothar the Frank*. Library, Hart House. 7:30 p.m.

Possible Worlds.

WEDNESDAYS TO SATURDAYS,
JANUARY 14 TO JANUARY 24
By John Mighton; directed by David Jermyn. Hart House Drama Society production. Hart House Theatre. Performances at 8 p.m., Saturday matinee

2 p.m. (Jan. 24). Tickets \$15, students and seniors \$12. Box office: 416-978-8668; www.harthousetheatre.ca.

EXHIBITIONS

JUSTINA M. BARNICKE GALLERY

HART HOUSE

From Phillips to the Future: Canadian Prints From the Hart House Permanent Collection.

TO JANUARY 29

Featuring 26 woodcuts by Walter J. Phillips (1884-1963), west gallery. Featuring a variety of print mediums such as etchings, lithographs, silkscreen prints, monoprints, linocuts and other printmaking pursuits in Canada, east gallery. Gallery hours: Monday to Friday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 1 to 4 p.m.

U OF T ART CENTRE Canadian Art for a Canadian University.

TO APRIL 20

Exhibition examines the various ways in which members of the Group of Seven were connected to the University of Toronto and how their paintings came to be in the university's collection; curated by fine art students, supervised by Liam O'Laoghaire. Hours: Tuesday to Friday, noon to 5 p.m.; Saturday, noon to 4 p.m.

DEADLINES

Please note that information for the Events listing must be received at The Bulletin offices, 21 King's College Circle, by the following times:

Issue of January 26 for events taking place Jan. 26 to Feb. 2: **Monday, January 12**.

For information regarding the Events section please contact Ailsa Ferguson at 416-978-6981; ailsa.ferguson@utoronto.ca

COMMITTEES

The Bulletin regularly publishes the terms of reference and membership of committees. The deadline for submissions is Monday, two weeks prior to publication.

SEARCH

DIRECTOR, INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, LIFE COURSE & AGING

A search committee has been established to recommend a director for the Institute for Human Development & Aging. Members are: Professors Donald Cormack, vice-dean, School of Graduate Studies (chair); Angela

Colantonio, occupational therapy; Rosemary Meier, psychiatry; Dave Davis, continuing medical education; John Myles, sociology; Elsa Marziali, Faculty of Social Work; David Hulchanski, Faculty of Social Work and director, Centre for Urban & Community Studies; and Usha George, Faculty of Social Work and Joint Centre of Excellence for Research on Immigration & Settlement; and Diana

Clarke, student, Institute for Human Development, Life Course & Aging; and Luke Sneyd, School of Graduate Studies (secretary).

The committee would be pleased to receive nominations and comments from interested persons until Jan. 30. Submissions should be sent to Luke Sneyd, School of Graduate Studies, 65 St. George St.; fax, 416-971-3211; e-mail, ppl.assocdean@utoronto.ca.

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Canada Research Chair in Perception and Language,
Cognitive Neuroscience Centre, Université du Québec à Montréal

SESSIONS

'Reflections'

Professor Peter Reich • Department of Linguistics

Professor Keith Oatley • Ontario Institute for Studies in Education

Professor Christopher Green • Department of Psychology, York University

'Frontiers'

Professor Randy McIntosh • Rotman Research Institute

Professor Kim Vicente • Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering

Professor Geoffrey Hinton • Department of Computer Science

'Development'

Professor Philip Zelazo • Department of Psychology

Professor Ana Teresa Pérez-Leroux • Departments of Linguistics and Spanish

University Professor Fergus Craik • Rotman Research Institute

'Extensions'

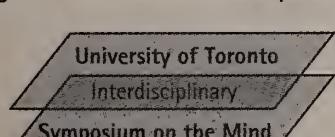
Professor Mihnea Moldoveanu • Rotman School of Management

Dean Brian Cantwell Smith • Faculty of Information Studies

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Dr. Darlene Lim

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"Extreme Earthly environments/Life on Mars"

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that's why the back page of *The Bulletin* is devoted to Forum, a place where thoughts, concerns and opinions of interest to colleagues across the university find expression.

Original essays by members of the community are both welcomed and encouraged.

Faculty, staff and students are invited to submit or discuss ideas with:

STEVEN DE SOUSA, EDITOR

The Bulletin 416-978-7016

steven.desousa@utoronto.ca

Look forward to hearing from you!

A WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY

Tuition freeze provides opening to consider income contingency and other student aid options

By DAN LANG

BEFORE LAST FALL'S PROVINCIAL ELECTION, *THE BULLETIN* PUBLISHED AN EDITORIAL DEBATE between our vice-president (government relations) and the president of the Students' Administrative Council about tuition fees and income contingent financial aid. That debate was full of good sense on both sides but was, unfortunately, typical of most discussions of income contingency and, indeed, of most discussions of financial aid.

Within the last 15 years the federal government, three successive Ontario governments and several universities — including the University of Toronto — have promoted the idea of income contingency as a means of assisting students to meet the costs of higher education. Every time the idea has come up it has been attacked, as it was in *The Bulletin's* duelling editorials, to other proposals that involve higher tuition fees and other means of finding additional funds for colleges and universities. This habit of linking higher tuition fees with income contingent repayment is neither necessary nor wise, but it is confusing. We will never understand the issue if we continue to view it through the lens of tuition fee increases and financial exigency.

Income contingent repayment plans offer some distinct advantages over other financial aid schemes, regardless of the levels of tuition fees and other funding of higher education. Those advantages are important because financial aid for students in Canadian colleges and universities, especially in Ontario, is in desperate need of overhaul. What is now available is an incoherent patchwork of programs that misses the target as often as it hits it and, in some cases, makes the problem worse. A tuition freeze, such as the provincial government has proposed, will do nothing to rectify this situation. Even if tuition fees were reduced, the problem would remain.

Income contingent repayment plans do not have to be based on loans in a strictly financial sense.

Whenever income loan repayment plans have been seriously studied in Canada, their costs have been forecast as if they would be conventional loans with conventional interest rates but which would be repaid over a longer period of time in amounts that could be adjusted annually according to taxable income. From this view of income contingency a student loan is, in the end, just a student loan. Income contingency does not make the loan any less expensive — and in certain situations could make it more expensive. This view also makes the opportunity costs to government seem almost prohibitively high.

There is, however, another view of income contingency that treats the foregone or deferred payment of tuition fees as a future tax liability to which former students, whether or not they graduate and whether or not they had financial need as students, are exposed on the basis of their annual taxable incomes. There are no interest rates in the conventional sense. There are annual adjustments to ensure intergenerational equity by taking into account price inflation. In other words, everyone repays in dollars of equal real value. Some graduates might repay their liabilities quickly. Some might retire or leave the workforce permanently before eliminating their liability. This is particularly relevant to the Canadian situation in which, although wage differentials between high school graduates and university graduates are rising, returns to individuals from investments in higher education are declining. Yet those returns on investments are used to justify increases in tuition fees; as much as governments and universities would like to have it both ways, the numbers say they can't.

The point is not that one of these views of income contingency is superior to the other. The point is that there is more than one way to think about the construction of an income contingent plan and in no case is it necessary to assume that tuition fees will rise if an income contingent plan is introduced. Let's take a matter-of-fact look at income contingent financial aid without making any assumption about the direction that tuition fee policy might take.

First, the cost of a student loan should not be confused with the loan's manageability. Income contingency can make the cost of attending college or university more manageable; it cannot make it any cheaper. Manageability includes factors such as the length of repayment schedules and annual payments that are automatically adjusted to reflect annual income. These, nevertheless, are genuine advantages. Under conventional student aid programs the most critical assessment of financial need is determined, conveniently but

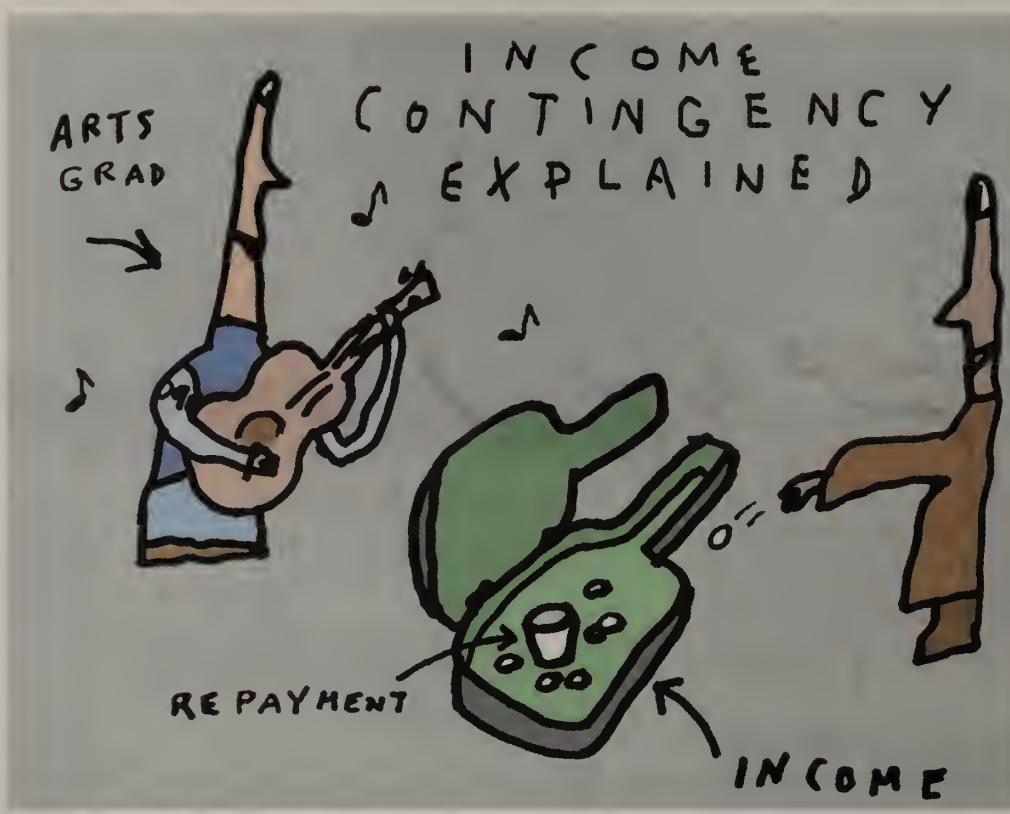
illogically, in the year prior to the student's first attendance which in most cases is at least five years before repayment becomes a reality. Under income contingency the concept of financial need is replaced by actual instead of forecast ability to pay, which is assessed annually after the student leaves college or university. In other words, income contingency can produce a more accurate, up-to-date and flexible fit between financial need and the costs of attendance.

Second, to the extent that income contingency can reduce costs, the costs that it reduces are to the public at large. Because income contingent plans are built on top of existing income tax withholding machinery, their transaction costs and default rates are much lower than those of conventional student aid programs. No Canadian or Ontario government has ever said what it would do with the savings that would arise from the efficiency gains of an income contingency plan. This is a point that the University of Toronto could usefully pursue in soliciting more funding for universities, but without necessarily calling for higher tuition fees.

Third, income contingent repayment is a means of deferring tuition fees — and that's all. It cannot supplant or substitute for tuition fees.

There is no income contingent voodoo that can make an increase in tuition fees smaller than it actually is. This is why income contingency should be debated in its own right as a financial aid policy, not as an adjunct of a university funding policy.

Finally, whatever one's opinion of the Ontario government's two-year freeze of tuition fees, it presents a window of opportunity that may not be opened again. The opportunity is a chance to consider income contingency and other options for student aid without reference to increases in tuition fees. A review of the province's financial aid policies would be of greater lasting value than yet another review of the funding formula, which as usual will result in no more than



cutting the suit to fit the cloth.

Two factors especially should be taken into account in such a review. First, the 30 per cent "tuition set aside" policy makes Ontario the only jurisdiction in the world in which most of the costs of non-repayable student aid are not borne by taxpayers at large but by students themselves. Moreover, this is done without any test of ability to pay. This has several perverse effects. It drives up overall financial need. If the 30 per cent extra charge were removed there would be fewer students with financial need. Because there is no needs test, the cost of the extra contribution falls more heavily on the middle class than the upper class. Students who contribute and who do not qualify for financial aid receive no benefit from what amounts to an involuntary transfer of wealth — the extra 30 per cent is essentially a compulsory charitable donation in the form of a regressive income tax surcharge. Let's say that the value of the extra 30 per cent is \$1,000. The student whose family falls short of qualifying for financial aid by just \$1 makes the same \$1,000 contribution as the student whose family wealth is \$1 million.

The second factor that should be taken into account is a paradox. Student aid programs that depend mainly on loans rely on an essential basic assumption that future earnings will be sufficient to repay the loans and leave enough net gain to justify the investment made in the first place. Returns on investments in higher education in Canada are declining. The rates of return on an undergraduate degree compared to a high school diploma in Canada are about one-half of comparable rates in Europe and about two-thirds of the rates in the United States. At the same time, the wage premium of a university degree over a high school diploma is growing. How can both be occurring at the same time? The answer is that as public subsidies go down and private costs go up the net rates of return decline because more of the increases in wages have to go to repaying student loans. In Canada the federal government and most provincial governments seem unaware of how relatively low the net rates of private return on investments in higher education have become, thus calling into question Ontario's predominant reliance on repayable student aid.

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